

ARTICLE 24:15

CERTIFICATION

Chapter

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CHAPTER 24:15:07

NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS CERTIFICATION

Section

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(1) “Fee,” any cost incurred by the candidate working towards National Board

Certification;

- (2) “National Board for Professional Teaching Standards,” is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan and nongovernmental organization. It is a voluntary system to certify teachers who meet specific standards related to teacher quality;
- (3) “National Board Certified Teacher,” an individual who has completed all requirements of National Certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards;
- (4) “Subsidy,” funds from U.S. Congress to assist with the candidate application fee;
- (5) “Stipend,” annual payment to National Board certified teachers;
- (6) “Take One,” a professional development opportunity that is based on the National Board Certification assessment program which results in one submission for entry to National Board for Professional Teaching Standards for scoring.

24:15:07:02. Fee Payments. Upon obtaining National Board Certification, the Department of Education shall reimburse any fees personally paid by the teacher for both initial, retake, and Take One applications. Fee limitations will be as follows:

- (1) Fees will not include fees paid by a scholarship or outside source;
- (2) These fees are paid for public school teachers only;
- (3) Fees will be paid for those teachers obtaining National Board Certification as a certified teacher employed in South Dakota.

24:15:07:03. Stipends Payments. Stipends are paid annually to a teacher or administrator who has obtained National Board Certification. Payments will follow these guidelines:

- (1) Stipends are paid to public school teachers only;

- (2) National Board Certified teachers who move into public school administration are eligible for continued stipend payments;
- (3) The Department of Education will notify school districts of individuals eligible for the stipend. The school district shall make payment during the school term the teacher first obtains National Board Certification and during the following four school terms;
- (4) Districts may opt to continue the stipend payment for an additional five years to be matched by the Department of Education up to a maximum of \$1000;
- (5) If an individual does not complete an entire year of teaching or is teaching part-time in the public school district, the stipend is pro-rated for the number of months of service to the district;
- (6) Districts may make the determination on how to fulfill their payment responsibilities to the candidate.

24:15:07:04. Subsidy awards. Any South Dakota teacher in a public or private school may apply for a subsidy award. Subsidies will follow these guidelines:

- (1) Applications for subsidies are distributed by the South Dakota Department of Education;
- (2) Subsidies are awarded once a year;
- (3) Subsidies are based on funding availability and number of applicants;
- (4) Subsidies are automatically credited towards the candidates' application account at the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards office.